Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

The House rose for lunch at 1-40 p.m. and reassembled at 2-40 with the Deputy President in the Chair

THE COCHIN PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* Sir, I beg to move that the Cochin Payment of Wages Act (Amendment) Bill be read in Council.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* The purpose of this amendment is only to bring in the employees in motor boats plying in the backwaters, within the ambit of the Act. The Motor and Steam Boat Employees' Association brought to the notice of the Government by a memorandum certain difficulties which were experienced by them as a result of the wording of the section in the present Act. The definition of "Industrial Establishment" in the Payment of Wages Act does not take in inland motor vessels or vessels propelled by any power other than steam. It is thought necessary to extend the provisions of the Act to the crew of all inland vessels whether propelled by steam, electricity or any other power. That is the principle involved in the Bill. It is absolutely a non-contraversial measure and I hope the House will pass it unanimously.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will not "inland sea" include backwaters.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* A steam vessel cannot be a Motor vessel, and a steam vessel cannot be a vessel run by electric power. We are only including within the definition "inland vessel propelled by steam, electricity or other mechanical power". We are only amplifying the definition.

Motion that the Payment of Wages Act (Amendment) Bill be read in Council, put and carried

Secretary to the Council: The title of the Bill is "The Cochin Payment of Wages Act (Amendment) Bill".

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I beg to move that S. O. 32 may be suspended.

Deputy President: Yes, it is suspended.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I beg to move that the Cochin Payment of Wages Act (Amendment) Bill be taken up for consideration.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Clause 2 put and carried

Clause 1 and Title and Preamble, put and carried

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I beg to move that the Cochin Payment of Wages Act (Amendment) Bill be taken up and finally passed to-morrow.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

Noon-day meals to Childern attending primary classes

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* On a point of order. Before the Hon'ble Member for Public Instruction moves the resolution I submit that the member is absolutely not in order when he moves a resolution because there is no scope under the Act or rules or the Standing Orders framed thereunder for the moving of a resoultion by the Government. So, though it is printed in the agenda, my submission is that a resolution moved by the Government becomes absolutely meaningless and quite rightly so, because a specific form is prescribed for a resolution, that is a specific recommendation to the Government. Here it will amount to a recommendation by the Government to the Government. Such a thing could never have been contemplated by a Legislature and my submission is that the resolution as framed and brougt has to be ruled out as being out of order.

Mr. A. V. Mothedan *(Chalakkudi):* I oppose the point of order. The Hon'ble Director of Public Instruction is a member of the Legislative Council and he has got the right to move a resolution and it is perfectly in order.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: If as has been pointed out by the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi with his consistent inability to understand law, the resolution will have to be ballotted. The proper notice of 15 days will have to be given. He will have to abide by the rules of the ballot.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: But the President has the power to decide in this case.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: Not with regard to ballotting.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: S.O. 6(2) says that the relative precedence of Bills and resolutions given notice by non-official members for each meeting shall be determined by ballot.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: The question is, can a Government member bring a resolution.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: I say under the Act and the rules framed thereunder and the Standing Orders, such a thing is not contemplated and is not warranted.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: In addition to, the point raised by my Hon'ble friend, there is, on the face of it, the ridiculousness of the Government recommending to the Government.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: It is not the Government recommending to the Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: A Government resolution is a recommendation to Government. Can you conceive of such a thing?

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: The Government resolution is that the House recommend to the Government. It is not a recommendation by the Government to the Government. It is a motion that the House may make a recommendation to the Government. Such a motion can be made by any member of this House including official members as well as non-official members. It is so under the rules. Under the rules in relation to the moving of a resolution no distinction is made between an official member and a non-official member. A resolution, under the rules and Standing Orders, can be moved by any member of the House. There is no restriction that a resolution can be moved only by a non-official member. When there is no such restriction, any member, whether he is an official or a non-official can move that, therefore the resolution attempted to be moved by the Director of Public Instruction is perfectly in order.

Then it has been asked if there is no difference between an official and a non-official member, whether this resolution should not have gone into the ballot-box. As far as that is concerned, certain days are set apart for Government business and certain days are set spart for non-official business and on days set spart for Government business any Government business can be taken without ballot. The ballot is only for relative precedence of non-official resolutions and Bills. Such bills & resolutions are allotted to non-official days. The relative precedence of these Bills and resolutions shall be determined by ballot. The words in S O. are "The relative precedence of notice of Bills & resolutions given by non-official members." It may be argued from the words, *i.e.* "given by non-official members" that by implication a resolution can be moved by an official member also. It is not necessary for me to stand on that slender argument. Even otherwise, there is no restriction upon official members.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)*: There have been two or three precedents in this House, when resolutions of this nature have been tabled by Government. I do not think that the President will be justified in acting up to the point of order raised. The intention of the Government is only to ascertain the views of the House with regard to the subject-matter covered by the resolution; I think the House will agree, that conventions already estabilised ought to be respected unless they are so grossly against law that they houlds not be acted up to. Resolutions by official members need not be balloted.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)*: May I know, Sir, whether this point of order was specifically referred to when the previous resolutions were moved?

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)*: The principle was gladly accepted by the members of this House, when such resolutions were tabled before this House. The rules do not prohibit the tobling of resolutions by the official members.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Deputy President : The convention established by the Government members moving resolutions is not against any express provision of the Act. It is also in the interests of the House itself that the Government is coming to take the views of the House before launching upon any scheme. They are simply awaiting the earliest opportunity possible to launch up on the scheme. Therefore, I think that the Hon'ble Member for Education is in order.

***Rao Sahib I. N. Menon** *(Director of Public Instruction):* Sir, for some years past, at any rate, Cochin has given the lead to her neighbours in the adoption of the ameliorative measures intended for the uplift of the masses; and I believe the resolution which I am going to move presently is one more striking instance of such humanitarian leadership which this Government has undertaken. Any person who has had the privilege of coming into intimate and close contact with the rising generation of this country will have been struck by the extremely poor and ill-nourished condition of the bulk of the children attending particularly our elementary schools even in normal times. Medical inspection reports, the reports from the Heads of schools which have become more frequent in these days, and my own personal experience of the condition of our children drove me to the conclusion that unless we were prepared to adopt some comprehensive measures for the feeding of our children, of our destitute children attending our elementary schools the huge sums of money now being expended on elementary education would be a sheer waste, because to teach a ill-nourished under-fed child, a hungry child, is an absolute impossibility from an educational stand-point. This House itself had in the past two years passed fairly generous sums of money to finance a scheme of partial school-feeding. The question of malnutrition of school children came to view also in another way. When in response to the call of the Allies our boys volunteered for service in the Royal Indian Navy and the other branches of His Majesty's Armed Forces a large number of our boys had to be rejected on the ground that they had not the requisite standard of physical fitness. All these boys came from our secondary schools. The signs of destitution were not widespread and it was felt that probably with a comprehensive system of physical education these boys in the secondary schools might be improved in their stature and in their physical fitness. Consequently, a comprehensive system of physical education was quickly undertaken. But it soon became clear that unless effective steps were taken simultaneously to afford proper nourishing food to our children attending the elementary stage of education, no system of curative physical culture would be of any help in improving the physique of the rising generation of our boys. The rapidly worsening food situation and the equally rapid deterioration in the physical condition of our school children led the Government to re-consider the question and with the characteristic human sympathy of our Ex-Diwan Mr. Dixon, who brooked no delay and admitted no defeat in the ministering of the poor he threw himself heart-and-soul into finding a solution of this vexed question of the feeding of our destitute children. Apart from the normal complexity of the problem, the food situation has made the problem even more insoluble than before. Three years ago on a modest computation, it was found that we would require at least 4 lakhs of rupees to give a mid-day meal to our necessitous children. The food situation had in the meanwhile greatly deteriorated and the cost of supplying a noon-day meal would be considerably higher than that at the last computation. However, in spite of all these difficulties, it was decided that an effective scheme for combating the evil of malnutrition should be immediately taken in hand and the stirring appeal which you might have seen published in the Gazette was rapidly followed up by an official proceedings constituting a central committee and in broad outlines laying down the mode of working of that committee.

A great deal yet remains to be done. We have only just made a beginning. And as I stand here, today, I feel considerable misgiving and trepidation, in the first place because the proposal which I am going to place before this House is extremely a large one, at least as far as India is concerned. In the second place, the time at my disposal for implementing this scheme is distressingly short; and finally the difficulties which we have to face and surmount are not yet fully visible at this stage and yet in view of the sheer humanity of the undertaking, I make myself bold, in spite of all these inherent difficulties and the difficulties of procedure and points of order which had been raised, I make bold to place this resolution for the acceptance of the House. The resolution reads:—"This Council recommends to Government that one-third of the cost of the mid-day meals proposed to be given to the children attending primary schools in the State should be borne by Government."

After what I have stated, it is quite unnecessary that I should enlarge on the need for making public contribution for such a necessary thing regarding children. A word of explanation

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

is necessary for including within the purview of this resolution all children attending elementary schools. Our previous efforts were directed towards affording relief to necessitous children attending our elementary schools, whereas the present resolution seeks to include within its purview every child who is in attendance at an elementary school. In the first place, the bulk of children who attend our vernacular schools or elementary schools as they are called, belong to the poorer classes. No fees are levied in these schools and if you look at the percentage of children who actually pass from these elementary schools to higher schools you will be convinced that the bulk of these children belong to the poorer classes of the community. It is true that some children who belong to the relatively well-to-do classes join these schools on the ground of nearness to their homes, but their number is not much. In the second place, there is great difficulty in determining the extent of malnutrition among our children. Nutrition, as my friend behind me will be able to explain, is not a condition which can be easily measured out by substance. For instance, the weight of the child is a fairly accurate index. The weight is not the only consideration. There is the ratio of stature to weight, there is the condition of the muscular system. There is in general, the carirage and the substance of the child, a general expression of listlessness, of apathy or keenness which one notices in the case of these poor children. These are all indications severally of nutrition and it is impossible in the nature of things to apply all these tests to determine as to which child deserves the sympathy and succour of the public. We have, therefore decided tentatively that every child who is in attendance at an elementary school should be brought within the purview of this ameliorative measure. It is likely that a small sprinkling of well-to-do children might also come within its purview. I would rather risk this inclusion of a very small handful of well-to-do children within the scheme rather than allow a single destitute child to escape from the beneficial results of the proposed scheme. This is only a tentative measure. The committee who has been constituted is going to meet only early next week. The local committees which are going to function and going to bear the brunt as it were, of the main administration work are only in process of formation. But it is very essential that one should, as a preliminary, possess oneself with the necessary funds before we can actually undertake this very comprehensive and complicated task.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* On a point of information. Would this scheme include children attending primary classes in the secondary schools ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Not at present. As a matter of fact, this question is only raised. I raised this question whether the primary department of the secondary schools should also be included. As we could not be so certain about the degree of destitution in the case of children who actually pay fees, it was originally thought that they need not be included at present. But it will be open to the committee to consider this question. As a matter of fact, there is nothing to prevent the committee from making slight alterations. For instance in the matter of the supply of food to English children, in the case of those who can afford to pay, they charge a penny. But they get much more than a penny's worth. In the case of children who can afford to pay fees, the question can be raised whether we cannot give them this food at very concessional rates. These are questions to be considered by the committee. As matters at present stand, we have taken into consideration only children attending our elementary schools. Even on that the numbers are going to be very enormous. Already we have received donations to the extent of a little over a lakh and fifty thousand rupees. But if everyone of us would take a personal interest in the matter, in our destitute children who have so far gone hungry and uncared for, I have not the slightest doubt that funds would be forthcoming and my idea in bringing forward this resolution is primarily to get in whatever manner possible the approval of this House in the first instance and to gain the sympathy personally and collectively of the members of this House in working out this scheme. It is a scheme of great magnitude fraught with very many difficulties; and unless every member of this House in addition to giving his vote to the passing of this measure, also takes a personal interest in seeing that the children in the neighbourhood of his residence is properly cared for in pursuance of the scheme, the working of it would be very difficult. We have already had serious complaints about other departments which are trying to minister to the needs of the poor in the matter of food supplies. The main difficulty is their very size. Probably temptations fraught in a matter like the present one, may be far fewer and far less than in the case of the Food Department. Sir, with your leave, I place this resolution for the unanimous acceptance of this House.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I second it.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur-South):* May I know the total cost involved in the scheme?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* At present the idea is that we shall have to collect subscriptions and donations. We have a very good earnest. We have every reason to hope that in a matter of sincere charity like this philanthropic people will vie with one another in trying to help the public.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* The resolution says that it is one-third of the total cost that the Government intend to contribute towards this fund. Is it one-third, one half of what is going to be collected which would come to one-third of the total or have they made any definite estimate of the amount which would be required and which they would have to contribute *i. e.*, one-third irrespective of what is contributed by the public.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* The idea of the Government is to contribute one-third of the total cost, not half of what is collected.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* What is the total cost estimated.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is very difficult to estimate the total cost. For one thing we have entirely depended upon the figures of last year. Approximately the total cost may come to 15 lakhs.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* So, 5 lakhs will be contributed by the Government irrespective of the collections.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I would like to get information on one or two points. What will be the number of children that have to be fed?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* We have only the figures of last year. This year's figure will be received only a little later; but relying on my experience of the last so many years I can say that it will be round about a lakh and sixty thousand children. Last year's report shows that we had one lakh and forty-five thousand children on the rolls of elementry schools. And particularly in an attractive scheme like this admissions are bound to be good next year. So it may be put at one lakh and sixty thousand.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What would be the probable expenditure per head per day?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* We have calculated this at one anna per head per day.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know the probable period of time for which the scheme is proposed to be worked?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* This fifteen lakhs of rupees are intended for working the scheme for the year 1119, up to the end of Karkadagam.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Can we think that this scheme is going to be worked so long as funds exist or how far do you propose to take it.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* As far as the Government are concerned they have introduced this only as an emergency measure, so that the children will be enabled to tide over the present problem during which time according to our expert doctor the likelihood of children contracting serious diseases of a permanent nature is considered to be very large and this amount of money is required only for this year.

Mr C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Government intends to compel all the children to take their mid-day meal in the schools?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* There is absolutely no idea of compulsion.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* If the Government do not compel and if they do not make any provision for the children of Sanatanists some children will not take food from schools and this will not benefit them. What I say is convenience may be made in schools to feed Sanatanists' Children and also if a non-vegetarian diet is served convenience may be given for Jewish children. The Government should bear those ideas in mind. If non-vegetarian food is served Muslims and Jews should be given conveniences for the proper orthodox trend and non-vegetarian diet ought to be given to them.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* The Hon'ble Member for Education was saying that it is for the year 1119. Four months are already over and two months may be calculated vacation, during which period there would be no feeding. So I take it that the amount is for the remaining six months.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* As a matter of fact when the scheme was first received we have already passed three months and the amount was worked out roughly for the remaining months excluding the vacation.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

*Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: I beg to move the following amendment: "Substitute "one half" for "one-third" in the first line of the resolution." So, the resolution as amended according to my suggestion will read like this.—"This Council recommends to the Government that one half of the cost of the mid-day meals proposed to be given to the children attending the primary schools in the State should be borne by Government". Now Government is contributing one-third. There is no reason for fixing it at one-third. The first idea that struck me is that it is disgraceful to the Government. According to our Christian Law of Succession a daughter's share is one-third. So I thought that the position of the Government is the position of a daughter in a Christian Family. When Sir Shanmukham was the Diwan of Cochin and when he was presiding here when the question of relief of beggars came, he said from the Chair that for every rupee contributed by the Public, Government will contribute one rupee, that is half and half. That is a statement of policy dictated some three or four years ago by the Government. I do not think there is any reason for deviating from that policy. In such matters like this, it is always better to decide half and half. When there is a doubt on the question of division, when there is equity on both sides, when there is no hard-and-fast rule as to how it should be divided, it should be half and half. I wish to say a few words regarding the resolution. By questions and answers several points were cleared by the Director of Public Instruction. But on one or two points, I want to get information and he may give that in his reply. One-third should be contributed by Government, that is the suggestion. I want it to make half. Then what about the remaining portion. For instance suppose a hundred rupees is the total expenditure for a primary school. Government is going to contribute Rs. 33 1/3. There is a balance of Rs. 66 2/3. That money is to be raised by the manager of the school or the Government as the Central agency. That point I wish to be enlightened.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: The first question is in regard to the paucity of funds which the Government were realising for this purpose and he referred to the days of Sir Shanmukham and stated that for the poor relief, the President of the time had promised 50 per cent. In reply to that question I would say that in the first place the school children are far numerous than beggars. We have 1,60,000 to be looked after and if Government are going to contribute half the amount the amount will be so much that it will be impossible to find out funds. In the case of beggars I do not think they are much more than 5,000 on the whole including the emigrant beggars. The reason is we do not want to treat our children in a more niggardly fashion than that in which we are treating our beggars. But the question of funds has to be considered. With regard to the collections Government have no idea at present of entrusting any duty to the heads of schools or burdening them with any responsibility. The idea as could be had from the notification published was to set up local committees of influential people in each ward in the Municipality and the Panchayat areas making them responsible for the collection and consulting them as to the way in which the funds can best be utilised for the food of the school children in that particular area. Such committees have been working for about 40 years in England and have been working with great success. They are called the local care Committees and the School Canteen Committees. There is no reason why in an enlightened State like ours such a devolution of responsibility should not be successful. The managers and the heads of Sirkar Schools may co-operate with these Committees and as far as I can see they may have a place in this Committee. But beyond the partial responsibility of a member sitting in the Committee, they will not be saddled with special privileges, with special powers and special responsibilities.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Regarding the method of collections of the non-official subscription I wish to suggest something more. The Member for Education stated that local committees will be appointed and they will collect funds. Now if that is so there would be great hardship.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: Are the local committees intended to collect funds?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: Not merely to collect the funds but also to administer them.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: May I know whether there would be a Central Committee responsible for the collection and whether the idea is to entrust the local committees with the task of collecting funds required for that particular area or whether the collections are to go to the Central Committee and then again distribute it to the local body according to the requirements of the local areas.

*Speech not corrected by tho Hon'ble Member

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Rao Sahib I N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* The funds available with the Central Committee will be available to all. With regard to the money collected by these local committees they will be spent at those local areas. I shall just read a paragraph from the Notification.—"In addition to the Central Committee Local Committees should be formed in the wards of Municipalities and in each Panchayat. Collections received by the Central Committee should be utilised in the first instance in providing mid day meals in schools where mal nutrition is most evident, funds collected by local committees will be earmaked for providing meals in schools in local areas concerned. Dr. Aykroyd has kindly offered to give his expert advice in regard to the working of the scheme". So the collections made locally will be entirely for local purposes, whereas amounts collected by the Central Committee will be made available for areas which are most urgently in need of help and if a surplus is available it will be made available for others also. I do not know whether I have made the matter clear.

Mr. Joseph Petta *(Adur):* But there is one difficulty. When the Local Committee has collected a certain amount of money and the Government is to contribute one-third, will that collection made by the local Committee be deducted from what the Central Committee has collected, or will it be an addition for each locality.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Those are details which will have to be discussed in the Committee. Government have simply laid down the broad lines of work. In regard to the collection and administration of the fund, the Central Committee and the Local Committees will be formed. The Central Committee will be responsible for the collection of the funds generally intended for all and the Controller or the Treasurer of the Local Committees will be empowered to collect as much money as they can for the purpose and each local committee will be at full liberty to expend the money which they collect as well as the subscription given by the Government.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* Will the subscription given by the Government be extra to the amount given by the Central Committee.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* All the collections will be taken into account, and the contribution that will be made by the Government will depend upon the amount collected.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur):* One-third of the cost required for each local area will be supplied by the Government.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* If they can find funds certainly I can assure the Hon'ble Member. Suppose out of Rs. 300 for the expenditure the local Committee collects Rs. 200. Government irrespective of any other consideration will contribute Rs. 100.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur):* Suppose a sum of Rs. 300 is required for a local area and they are able to collect only Rs. 100. You will give only half or one-third of the total requirement.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I am afraid the Hon'ble Member has not studied the notification completely. I shall read from the notification.—

"In addition to the Central Committee Local Committees should be formed in the wards of Municipalities and in each Panchayat. Collections received by the Central Committee should be utilised in the first instance in providing mid-day meals in schools where malnutrition is most evident, funds collected by local committees will be earmaked for providing meals in schools in local areas concerned. Dr. Aykroyd has kindly offered to give his expert advice in regard to the working of the scheme.

These are the only general directions which the Committee has so far received. It is proposed that the next meeting of the Committee is to be held on Wednesday next. As to what precisely should be the relation and the ratio of the funds collected locally and collected at the centre what should be the exact manner and the mode or expenditure of the money collected locally, what should be the way in which the Government should contribute and what should be the exact contribution and so on and so forth are details which will be discussed and properly decided at one sitting. These are all matters of great importance and no delay will be occasioned, in the matter of implementing the scheme. As a matter of fact I personally hold an apology for the delay. The reason was one of the most important members, a gentleman who contributed Rs. 1,50,000 requested, that the matter might be postponed for a couple of days so that he might also attend. In the meanwhile I thought it will be more wise for us first to secure the advice and assistance of this House before actually meeting the Members of the Committee.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* With regard to the ways and means of finding this one-third share of the Government I wish to inform the House that the intention

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

of the Government is that if it is not possible for Government to find that amount out of the General Revenues, they would levy a new Sales-Tax, which would bring in an income of about 5 lakhs of rupees.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Regarding the scheme of giving noon-day meals the Hon'ble Member for Education said that there will be a Central Committee and Local Committees. That is alright. But regarding the function of these two departments I think some further suggestions are necessary. According to the Hon'ble Member the Local Committee will collect funds, the Central Committee will also collect funds from the Public and if the Local Committees' collections are not sufficient the Central Committee may come to their help or something like that. So the collections of the local committees will be ear-marked for giving meals to the people of that locality. Now in our State there are two classes of areas, deficit areas and surplus areas. Places like Mattancheri, Ernakulam and Trichur may be surplus areas. There may be collections more than necessary for such local areas. On the other hand there are places like Kodakara and other mountainous places where there may be very little collection and therefore the surplus collections in these areas should be sent to the deficit areas. What I suggest is the Local Committee may collect funds and all these should go to the Central Committee and this Committee should distribute according to a uniform principle. Mr. Alagappa Chettiar when he made a donation did not intend it to a particular locality but to all the people of Cochin State so that all the collections should be pooled into a general fund. So what I submit is there should be a general fund for the whole State. That fund will be like this. The collections by the Local Committees and by the Central Committee will be pooled into one general fund. Then the Central Committee should have certain rules for distribution. According to those rules each area will be given according to the uniform rate. Then the work of the Local Committee is to see that noon-day meal is given properly that the scheme is properly administered and whether proper expenditure is incurred and whether there are vouchers for the money spent, etc.. These are some of the suggestions which the Hon'ble Member for Education has to bear in mind.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I request the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi to give us those useful suggestions categorically so that we can have the use of them.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: First is half and half. Government should contribute half, not one-third, and the non-official public should contribute half. The second suggestion is regarding the relationship between the Local Committees and the Central Committee. Regarding that, I said there should be one Central Committee. Both are responsible for collecting all available funds from the public; but all the collections are to go to a general fund. There must be a treasurer who will be in charge of the funds. Nobody can expend as they like. The whole collections of the local committees and of the central ecommitte will be in the power and possession of the central committee. Regarding the disbursement the central committee will work in consultation with the local committees and will frame certain rules as to what will be the quota per head and they will fix the rate. According to the uniform principle these amounts should be disbursed to each local area or local committee. So in the disbursement and collection, the entire responsibility will be on one person of the central committee and the local committees would only be subservient in the matter of the collection to the central committee. They cannot do as they like. Otherwise there would be diarchy and chaos and consequent failure.

Regarding the question of half I forgot to mention one fact. Till now Government was contributing a half share. I suggest that that principle may be continued hereafter also.

With these suggestions I recommend that one-third may be deleted and half may be substituted.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: May I know whether any tentative skeleton scheme has been already framed for the consideration of the committee.

Deputy President: Mr. Kumaran Ezhuthassan, You have given notice of two amendments. As for the second I can't allow that.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I have withdrawn the first.

Deputy President: The second amendment "and if need be the whole of the cost" cannot be allowed. Government say they have not got sufficient time to consider it. When they say so, it would be unfair if I allow that to be moved at short notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I want to draw first the serious attention of the Hon'ble Chair to Rule No. 48 which says that consent or no consent of the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Government has no play in this matter. It is purely within the discretion of the Hon'ble Chair to allow the amendment or disallow the amendment.

Deputy President: It is the discretion of the Chair. The discretion is based upon certain considerations. It is not arbitrary.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur):* It is mainly not a case for objection from the Government as the amendment has been read out "if need be the whole cost". They will only be too glad to have more powers.

Deputy President: They will have to spend more.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur):* They are getting a blank cheque.

Deputy President: No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* The Chair may be pleased to allow it.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* We had no time to consider that question.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur):* We want time to consider before we should make up our mind whether we should authorise the Government to spend the whole thing. That is why I pointed out that it is more an objection on the non-official side than on the official side.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What is now sought, Sir, also is an opportunity to place this view point also before the Government.

Deputy President: The Diwan President did not allow a short notice amendment this morning. I am prepared to admit this amendment with this short notice if the Government members have no objection.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* We have.

Deputy President: Because they have to consider all the implications of this amendment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Have sufficient time to consider, because it is not going to be such a slip-shod discussion.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Apart from every other consideration, the entire ground will be shifted if it is changed from one-third to the whole cost.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I may just inform the Hon'ble Chair that the Government would require time to consider the implications of this short notice amendment when they think of responding to it, but when it is admitted for discussion.....

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Government have objection in this sense that they must have time to consider such a serious question like this, because the extra cost would be 10 lakhs of ruppees.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* That time can be had in its proper time. We are now upon the question of admission of the amendment which is entirely in the discretion of the Chair.

Deputy President: It is entirely in my discretion. I am not going to use that discretion arbitrarily, especially in view of the ruling by the Diwan President this morning. That is why I wanted the consent of the Treasury Bench.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* That might be for reason best known to the Hon'ble President. But we are here before the Hon'ble Deputy President requesting for the exercise of his discretion. It is entirely in his hands. It would appear that the discretion to be used by the Chair will depend upon the sweet pleasures of the Government which for reasons best known to them may possibly object even to less objectionable things. Government will have sufficient time to consider at the time of the acceptance of the amendment.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* The discussion is going on and if the amendment is allowed, the discussion on the amendment will continue, and Government will have to take a definite view of the matter.

Deputy President: If the amendment is allowed discussion will be going on on the amendment.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* And the Government will have to give their opinion.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I submit on that point we are very strong, because the Government came here this afternoon to consider the question of contribution and if we accept the omnibus amendments like that, will be driven to consider the question of fresh taxation.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* That is when Government accepts the amendment for action.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: We have not come prepared to consider any fresh legislation which might involve the question of this additional taxation. I am absolutely certain that if we should have another 10 lakhs it will land in additional taxation. Already the Joint Secretary whispered.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: *Shouted.*

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: .....that there would be need for additional taxation so that if you allow this on the strength of your discretion it will have to be objected to being a short notice motion.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: It changes the whole structure of the resolution.

Deputy President: Mr. Ezhuthassan had sent another amendment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I don't move.

Deputy President: You were satisfied with one half. Therefore the short notice amendment, I cannot allow.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur)*: The Hon'ble Joint Secretary was referring to a sales tax. I would like to know whether it is to meet one-third share which is promised by Government that the sales tax is contemplated, or whether it is to meet the other two-thirds.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: It is to meet the one-third. If it is not possible to meet this expenditure from the General Revenues, Government may have to resort to the levy of sales tax.

Mr. Thomas Karikkasseri *(Latin-Christians Cranganur)*: What is your expectation of the rate of taxation ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Government have not decided.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: Is the issue before the House, the question of tax or the question of feeding children ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Both are allied.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: I cautioned the House for a particular purpose. Mr. Moothedan's amendment is to raise one-third to half. In considering this proposal, I thought it was only proper that the Members bear in mind the possibility of an additional taxation.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: If the purpose of that side remark of the Joint Secretary to Government is that, if we pass this resolution, they should be enabled to take shelter under the vote of the House for imposing sales tax, then we emphatically protest against any such procedure; because nothing is seen in the resolution itself about the taxation. If you want to have a discussion on the subject of taxation, there must be a specified motion or a taxation Bill for that purpose.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: A Sale-tax Bill will be brought before the House for that purpose.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: If you are asked to spend, you must point out the source of income also. They must necessarily take from your pocket.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: I thought my friend with his experience would have been able to understand that there is a possibility of this expenditure being met from the existing revenues without additional taxation. When Government move a Resolution in this fashion without saying anything about taxation, the presumption is that Government will meet it out of the General Revenues and not by the imposition of any tax.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: That is the very reason why the position is made clear now. I said that only by way of caution.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur)*: This caution has come too late. This caution is just on the floor of this House. Just as Government said just now that they were not prepared in regard to the amendment of the hon'ble member because they had no time to consider the Resolution, we came here without any idea of fresh taxation. But to say that because we pass this resolution therefore we approve of the sales tax also would be taking us unawares, and if it is so, we shall throw out the resolution, we want time to consider the question because nothing has been said in the resolution about the taxation. Now we are taken by surprise.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur)*: Is there not an assurance, Sir, that a Bill will be introduced for additional taxation ? In the face of that assurance where is the necessity to throw out the resolution ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is not because Government revenues do not allow this 5 lakhs to be found. It is clear that in case the Government Revenues do not allow this 5 lakhs to be found from the savings, some additional taxation will be required and the Government have been considering alternative sources of taxation. We thought we might as well tell the House that the way in which this additional money will be found will most probably be by way of sales tax rather than by any other method. We do not want to tell the House that we will not find this from the surplus money. Only if we are driven to the extent of finding this money by additional taxation, then the taxation that we might prefer will most probably be of the sales tax type. That is the only extra information that we want to give to the House.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Am I correct in understanding you that you thought that the members would have come in with the thought that no taxation is possible that you give this information.

Deputy President: You have elicited too much information now. If any hon'ble member wants to speak on the resolution he may speak.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഇതുവരെ പണം കലക്ടചെയ്യേണ്ടകാര്യം മാത്രമെ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ളൂ. ഫണ്ടറെയിസ്സ്ചെയ്താലും എന്താണ് തിന്നാൻ കൊടുക്കുക; അതിനുവേണ്ട സാധനം ഉണ്ടോ എന്നുള്ളതുംകൂടി നോക്കേണ്ടെ ?

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Nominated):* Mr. President, Sir, The principle underlying this resolution is a very laudable one; but I dot think it will be a success if we are going to depend on voluntary contributions. A colossal sum of about Rs. 10 lakhs would be required even for one year. If the scheme is to succeed, then the Government has to introduce some sort of educational cess, or some taxation in some form or other, and I am against Government asking for voluntary contributions and then introducing taxes. Let a tax be introduced straightaway and this scheme continued. And the scheme will not work if you are going to depend on voluntary contributions. So, let us introduce an educational cess or some sort of tax, so that every one shall bear the burden of this tax and achieve the laudable object underlying this resolution.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know from the Hon'ble Member for Education whether there is a skeleton scheme prepared by them already ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* As the hon'ble member is aware, the proposal for the feeding of the poor children attending our elementary schools was decided upon probably in the course of a few hours, because the difficulty was felt to be so oppressive; that at first we were asked to collect statistics to make an estimate as to how many children will have to be fed and what approximately would be the cost per capita and this information could be got in the course of a week. On the basis of those figures, an appeal was issued by the Diwan and the tentative scheme also published. Subsequent to the issue of that appeal, relying on the possibility of collecting the money, I have prepared a skeleton scheme which I am going to present to the Committees because I thought it will be rather an affront to meet the committee with an absolutely blank mind. I thought I should place some sort of tentative programme before them when they meet. I have only that skeleton scheme which has not been presented to the Government. It is to go through the committee first. It has not been presented to the Government because it is not at that stage yet. After the details have been filled in by the committee it will be placed before the Government for its acceptance.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will you please give us a description of the scheme?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* For instance, as I said, we have no analogies here and the only available analogy is England. To what extent we can follow the system that is prevalent in England has to be scrutinised by the committee which is composed of men with more practical experience than I have and more business talent and ability. Therefore, I think it will be possible to work by means of a central committee and local committees which may be called the Local Care Committees which would decide upon the selection of children, the other can be called the Canteen Committee, as is done in England who is responsible for the making and distribution of the food and I have also got some tentative proposals for the constitution of these committees, how they should be constituted, how they should include the local talent, so that the two may work together in unison. It is so tentative that I thought it ill-advised in placing it before the House for any serious consideration. I thought it necessary and better that it should be placed before the committee to fill in details, and as

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

soon as it is prepared I shall send a copy to each member of the Council; because I know to a very great extent the success of the scheme depends upon the individual energy which each one has in the actual implementing of the scheme.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is the discussion on the amendment?
Deputy President : No.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I agree with the view the Government has taken in embarking on this very laudable scheme. But the Government ought to have made clear that there may be, if necessary, additional taxation. This might have been included in the very resolution. Since this has not been pointed out, all of us were in a fix as to what should be done in this matter. I am for fresh taxation, and if at all, any tax is going to be levied it ought to be sales-tax. I would even propose that in view of the very liberal contribution given by Mr. Alagappa Chettiar and also by Mr. Walmesley, they may be requested, if they are willing to transfer the contribution to rather an equally benevolent fund, I mean, the Cochin State Military Benevolent Fund. At the same time, taxation for feeding the children will be a welc ome idea Government may better bring a taxation measure in the next sitting of the Legislative Council to tax people to raise funds to feed their own children.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* And also bachelors to pay for one dozen children.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I would have been prepared to pay it had I been a bachelor.

My proposals therefore is that the Government may consider this subject well and be pleased to withdraw this resolution for the time being and bring in a Bill in the next session for introducing a sales-tax, ear-marked for the purpose of feeding children. No cess shall be levied based on the land tax. The land tax is already heavy.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I just made the enquiry whether the discussion is on the amendment or not, and since I was not properly understood it was stated that the amendment was ruled out. I was enquiring whether the discussion is upon the amendment moved by my Hon'ble friend from Chalakkudi or on the resolution tabled by the Government as it stands on the order paper. I am thinking of intervening in the debate after ascertaining that.

Deputy President : I meant the resolution and also the amendment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* It is Sir, a question of riveting our attention upon specific things, whether it is the amendment that is being discussed or the whole resolution, because I may have one attitude on the amendment and another on the main r esolution.

Deputy President: When the discussion is over, the amendment is put to vote; if the amendment is carried, the resolution as amended will be put to vote afterwards.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Mr. President, now that I have understood the position. I want to preface whatever humble contribution I can make to the discussion of this all-important resolution. I want to preface my remarks with these words "This Hon'ble House may be pleased to consider this all-important resolution in an atmosphere of solemnity, of humanity and not in an atmosphere which is not anything akin to the two things that I mentioned. This is a subject, Sir, which affects the present school-going children who will be the youths of the country a few years hence, and who will in their turn develop and blossom into the manhood of this country a few years later. It is a problem that affects in short the future of our beautiful land. Therefore it is, Sir, that I thought it necessary to preface my remarks to have the discussion in an atmosphere of solemnity, of sincerity, of humanity and more than that of prayer-fulness. That is the atmosphere in which I wish to see—this all import ant resolution with such far-reaching implications discussed and decided upon by this Hon'ble House. Attempts at side--tracking the issue and doing things of that sort may at least in the discussion of this important resolution be avoided. I submit, Sir, that I had on the sight of seeing this resolution printed as item 9 on yesterday's agenda, in my enthusiasm for the cause of feeding the necessitous children of the school-going age.....

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* According to the proposal only necessitous children are fed today.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instructions):* No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Are all the children attending elementary schools, that is, those who can afford to take meals at home also to be feed? Lot it be so. My argument holds good even then.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

We are considering Sir, such an all-important, solemn resolution which affects the future manhood of our State. I was adverting, to my foolishness in sending up an amendment to the resolution which was a replica of the amendment so ably moved by the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi. Mine was identical to this one. But on mature thought I found I was foolish myself in tabling that motion. Here is a resolution which says that one-third of the cost of mid-day meals proposed to be given to the children attending primary schools is to be borne by the Government. That is the resolution. That is, in other words, through this resolution Government was asking this Hon'ble House to consider the question of giving its consent on the question of spending one-third of the total expenditure necessary for this laudable purpose. That is the scope of the resolution. As I submitted before, the amendment first given notice of by me as a result of my fisrt reaction to the resolution I found later to be the result of my foolishness because simple arithmetic tells us that half is more than one-third. Let it not be one-third that the Government should be allowed to spend, let it be half. I thought first. Later on, wisdom dawned on me and I was telling myself that I did a foolish thing. Hence I withdrew that amendment I had orally informed the Legistative Council Secretary that I am not moving it. My intention therefore now is not to move that rupee-rupee amendment. I do not propose to move it. And then the question was arresting my attention and serious thought during all these days and just at lunch time today forced me to send up the amendment which had the fate that had been made known to us., I mean the amendment which was rejected to the effect "if need be, the whole of the cost".

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: With your leave Sir, this is a resolution.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I refuse to give way, Sir., It is my right to possess the House under the rules of procedure.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: On a point of order, Sir. This is a resolution in which it seems most of the members of this House are interested and may like to speak and if sheeches are allowed without a time-limit, this resolution may take a long time. So, I request the Hon'ble Chair to insist upon a time-limit.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: What is the point of order? Sir, may I know?

Mr. T. P Poulose *(Kanayannur)*: The point of order is that the time-limit should not be exceeded.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Thanks for the elucidation. If my amendment had been allowed to be discussed, the proposition would have run as follows:— "This Council recommends to Government that one-third of the cost of the mid-day meals proposed to be given to the children attending primary schools in the State "and if need be, the whole of the cost, should be borne by Government". That would have been the amended resolution. Of course, I do recognise, Sir, that there is no use of expatiating upon the beauty of a lost child. Because of intrinsic merits it would have appeared as a most beautiful child. But unfortunately, it is dead. Therefore, on this Sir Shanmukham basis of one rupee-one rupee amendment, though that was pronounced regarding the beggar proposition, my views upon that amendment I shall place before the House first and then come to the original resolution. I strongly and whole-heartedly oppose this 50%; 50% amendment; not for the reason that the Government is not to spend half but the Government is to spend more, if need be, the whole. Therefore, my submission, Sir, is let not the Government's hands be tied by saying 'Thou shalt spend 50 per cent and nothing more" and the consent of the House is given to spend 50 percent of the expenditure, not a pie more. That unfortunately will be the effect of carrying that amendment. The consent of this House, if that amendment is carried, will be to spend 50 per cent of the total cost, not a pie more. Therefore, it is that I oppose it.

Deputy President: Many Hon'ble members may like to speak on this subject and therefore you will cut short your speech.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I am at your command, Sir. I am, therefore, strongly against the amendment being accepted and on the laudable subject of the my original resolution the object of which is the feeding of the children attending our Primary schools clear position, Sir, is that there is no sacrifice not worth making to achieve the end in view. All the children attending the primary schools are to be fed and they must be fed after taking opinion from food experts as regards the quality of food necessary. To give to a child food which will be conducive to his developing into a beautiful, strong, healthy young man thereby later on giving us the manhood that is wanted in these days of post-war re-construction and later enjoyment, to give us that manhood, whatever is necessary must be done. I was

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

indeed amused, Sir, amused to find a sort of tickling sensation not only in the mind but also in the bodies of some of the Hon'ble members when the very word taxation was, according to a certain member whispered, according to another, shouted from the Treasury Benches, according to me, enabled my friend on my right properly and relevantly informed. Because according to me, Sir, this is a proposition which allows the raising of funds by all known methods. To keep up the status of beautiful Cochin, not by begging, not by stealing, but by borrowing, if need be, by taxing if that is the better method, taxing at the proper source, taxing the intoxicating drugs of the State which eats into the vitality of the man, better still. Apply your mind as to where to tax, what to tax, whom to tax and how best to tax. You know it, everybody knows it. Where to tax and how, to tax is not necessary. To tax and what to tax is the red rag before you. It appears to me that it was even characterised that the innocent Joint Secretary who made the suggestion in all seriousness and with a purpose so that you may understand was indulging in a threat. But the fact is that his face showed no sign of threat at all. It is what it is. The necessity of probable taxation, therefore, Sir, was necessary to be told then.

Taxation is not objectionable for this purpose, borrowing is not objectionable for this purpose, begging we cannot resort to, and stealing we shall not resort to. Therefore, it is by adopting any known, acknowledged method of raising funds to any tune that is wanted for this purpose. If we unfortunately find ourselves not able to meet our quota whatever it is, from the general revenues, the question arises, whether we have to raise funds by new taxation. That is all. Therefore, Sir, as far as I am concerned, I am prepared to leave a blank cheque in the hands of the responsive Government of Cochin, to raise the funds necessary for meeting the expenditure on this proposition even to the tune of a crore, if that be necesssary. But where is the ground for fear. When by the grace of God we have and we had been having in our midst for the last few years a prince among industrialists—I am referring to none other than Mr. Alagappa Chettiar—who had given us the first instalament of his munificent contribution to this fund a sum of a lakh and a half of rupees, who has been pleased to settle down here for all practical purposes as a Cochinite. And have we not got other princes amongst us too. Approach them in the proper manner. Funds will come. Could you not depend upon the hon'ble members of this House who are scattered throughout the State, representing as they do, various constituencies? Will they not contribute their share in finding out ways and means of raising contributions not to speak of their own contributions according to their note. I for one assure you, Sir, whether I be in the local committees—let it be not misunderstood that I am pleading for any place on the local committee, because I am afraid such interpretation will be put—I promise here and now that I will contribute my share of work and even spend the rest of my life in working for this noble cause. With this appeal of mine and once again referring to my preface that this is a subject to be discussed in an atmosphere of solemnity, of sincerity, of humanity, of reverential prayer, that the scheme may succeed and the fruits thereof, we may be able to enjoy in the nearest future. I respond to the wish of my hon'ble friend from Mulanthuruthi and the Hon'ble Chair.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* I welcome this resolution sponsored by the Government. I welcome it for more reasons than one. The proposition is prima facie quite acceptable. The purpose sought to be be achieved is a noble one. But the Joint Secretary threw a bomb-shell on this House, by suggesting that if the House commits itself or makes the Government commit itself to a substantial expenditure on this account, it is sure to mean an additional taxation. Addititional taxation at least so far as I am concerned, is not a bugbear. Government can tax, is bound to tax, is justified in taxing, if there is the guarantee that the money so collected will be properly utilised. Here, my friend has been bellowing that we have got a responsive Government in Cochin. By whatever name you call it, it is not responsible Government. So, till the day that responsible Government is established in the State, there is absolutely no guarantee that any money raised by way of taxation will be properly utilised. My friend would have done well when saying that we are prepared to be taxed, that we welcome taxation for such a good purpose, he would have done well if he had stressed that the Government is also in duty bound to see that all avoidable items of expenditure are avoided, that all measures of retrenchment are adopted before resorting to additional taxation. So, my point is if this resolution is coupled with proposals of additional taxation, I think the proposal can well wait for the sunny day when complete responsible Government is established here, for the reason that then only will be the guarantee that the amount so collected will be properly utilised. In the Province of Madras, sales-tax was imposed with the definite promise made by the then

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Government that the proceeds will be utilised only to make up the loss sustained by the Government by introduction of prohibition. Now, what have they done, Sir? Prohibition has been withdrawn but the tax is still there.

Deputy President: I think that we are concerned with a thing in Cochin.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* I just draw a parallel and that is admissible, I think. Whatever be the present day Government of Madras, they have thought it wise to continue it and they still cling and cling on like a leach to the sales-tax and what is more they have increased the rate four-fold. So, unless there is a solemn assurance that any proposed sales-tax or whatever alternative forms of taxation, the proceed thereof will be utilised only for this specific purpose and that the tax will not be levied when the scheme under discussion is not worked out. I say, if there is that solemn assurance, from our Government, even if it is not responsible, I for one am for strongly supporting this resolution. My quarrel is not with the resolution, but with that bomb-shell. But if that bomb-shell is coupled with a solemn assurance that the sales-tax will be collected from the people of the State only if the resolution is worked out, then I think the resolution ought to be accepted, nem con by the members of this House. Sir, Government will do well to offer an assurance even now. That will greatly help the discussion of the resolution in this House.

Deputy President: That assurance will be given in their reply.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The proposed sales-tax will be utilised if it becomes necessary, only for this purpose.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്", പണിക്കർ; നമ്മുടെ ജനറൽ റവന്യൂവിൽ സർപ്ലസ്സായിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യയില്ലെങ്കിലല്ലെ അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുകയുള്ളൂ.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* If we can find funds from the general revenues, and if they are insufficient, then, we will have need for additional taxation.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* So, your ideas are very vague.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* It is clear now.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Why not Government take this proposal and first introduce the sales-tax and if more money is wanted for this purpose, then you can have recourse to contributions.

Mr. T. S Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* I am glad that an assurance has come from the Government.

But there is another aspect. It may be that in future with the development of the Cochin Harbour and the development of the various other sources of income, there may be surpluses—and there has been a surplus last year and we anticipate a bigger surplus in this year's budget from the proceeds of the Excess Profits Tax, etc.—and if there is such a surplus I feel and rightly too that the Government will not be justified in collecting sales-tax for working out this proposition.

Deputy President: They have already stated that they will resort to sales-tax only if the general revenues are found to be insufficient.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* My point is and I deliberately repeat it, that even if the Government is working out this proposal, that does not mean that the Government should necessarily collect a sales-tax if they have a surplus and if they can meet the expenditure from current revenues.

Deputy President: That is what they have stated already.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamacgalam):* That is about the scheme in general. About the details of the scheme, the setting up of local committees and a central committee and asking the local committees to collect funds and the Government contributing one-third of the local collections, I think that will lead to anomalies.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I din't say that.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Am I right in having understood thus, that is, the local committees are to collect funds and those funds will be ear-marked for the feeding of children in the local schools. If they are in a position to collect all the funds necessary there, an interference of the central committee is not called for and if they collect an amount less than the full amount required, there is the central committee.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I simply read out passages, from the notification published by Government. The two paragraphs simply lay down in

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

genaral outline the mode of procedure and the general relation between the two committees. It makes no specific idea as to how this money is to be actually spent. Beyond the two paragraphs, paragraphs 2 and 3 I didn't read anything.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* But I understood you to say that collections made by local committees will be entirely ear-marked for requirements of local schools.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is quite true that I said that as regards the collections made locally by the local committee they will be entirely ear-marked for local expenditure.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam)*: And any deficit will be made good by the Central Committee or Government.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Not merely by the collections, but the contributions by Government.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* The amount collected by the Central Committee plus the contribution from the Government? Suppose a locality collects an amount in excess of the actual reqairements of the area. What will be the position? Will the local committee have the option to utilise all the amount by enhancing the quality of the food or increasing the ration. I want to have a definite idea.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I quite realise such super-abundance of philanthrophy has not been unprecedented. Government, as I said, have simply laid down the general outline, and if Hon'ble Member wants all these details will be placed before the committee and a working arrangement arrived and the members will be informed of that.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* In urban areas, the local committee may be able to collect funds far in excess of local requirements, whereas in places like Pattancheri, or Andikadavu or Chellanam etc., money may come in only in driblets and the local collections may be very meagre. So, the Government will do well to pool all the resources whether the money comes from the local committee or the central committees, and work out the scheme from one end of the State to the other on a uniform basis. That is my humble suggestion. I think the proposition is inherently a very good one and we are living in times when the mercantile community has a very good time of it; and we are lucky in having an enlightened population, so much so, if the enthusiasm and philanthropy of the people are properly tackled, I should say the Government can even expect a contribution which is quite sufficient to make it possible to work out the scheme without any subsidy from the Government. From the way in which the scheme has been explained in this Council by the Director of Public Instruction for the working out of the scheme, it involves a total anmual expenditure of 15 lakhs, and for that Government is to contribute 5 lakhs. On the basis of 3 per cent interest, for a recurring expenditure of 15 lakhs it after all requires 5 crores of rupees invested in 3 per cent investments. So, if we can build up a fund of 5 crores of rupees we can for ever feed our children from the interest accruing from that. So, I think we can very seriously make an attempt and if enthusiasm is there, I am sure, we can get 5 crores, or even 50 crores, if there is the will and if there is the guarantee that you will utilise the proceeds properly. If instead of a permanent scheme, we plan a scheme for a period of 10 or 20 years say, a lesser amount on the basis of an annuity will suffice. For the collection of 5 crores we can start lotteries, etc. It all depends upon how you work it up, and how sincere and enthusiastic you are about it. With these few humble suggestions and thanking the Government for the solemn assurance given that if at all an additional taxation is resorted to, it will only be to cover the expenditure involved in working out this sound proposition and if the Government feel that the time has come that such a scheme is not called for, then that additional taxation won't be resorted to; thanking once more for that solemn and responsible assurance from the Government, I beg to resume my seat and I appeal to this House to give this proposal weighty consideration and unanimous acceptance.

Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur South):* The discussion has mainly centred round the means of finding out the money to finance the scheme. It has been suggested by some of the hon'ble members that the whole amount necessary can be obtained by the levy of sales-tax. Mr. Koder himself pointed out that it is ill-advised for the Government to depend upon voluntary contributions for financing this scheme and supported sales-tax. In my humble view, when one thinks of the persons upon whom the burden of sales-tax will fall, one should say that the Government has to be discouraged in introducing the sales-tax. The burden, according to me of sales-tax will fall upon every consumer. It is not going to fall upon the rich capitalists, it is

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

not going to affect adversely any one of these traders who belong to the ever prospering mercantile community of today. The trader will go scot-free. He will have to pay not a pie. An article which costs Rs. 100 will, after the introduction of the sales-tax, cost Rs. 101 or Rs. 102 and the poor consumer in the village will have to pay for the same article Rs. 106 or Rs. 110. The wholesaler adds to this bill on Rs. 100 Rs. 2 and the retailer another Rs. 2. When it reaches the trader in the village it comes Rs. 105 or more, according to the number of traders through whose hands the article has passed. So, the poor consumer in the village will have to pay sometimes Rs. 10 more than he was paying formerly. I would request hon'ble members of this House to give their most anxious consideration to this aspect of the introduction of the sales tax. If I have understood it correctly, the whole burden is going to fall upon the poor consumer and the rich men will go scot-free. I am not saying that the Government should penalise the rich. I am suggesting that it is only fair, proper and equitable to have a scheme which will tap the resources of every rich man rather than taking one or two rupees from the poor consumer to whom the price already prevailing is prohibitive. I only wish to impress this aspect of the taxation upon this House.

With regard to the appointment of the local committees and the powers and obligations of those committees, I would again request hon'ble members and also Government to keep one idea in view that the powers given to them and the obligations cast on them must be such that there may be every encouragement for them to go about and collect funds. If the extra money is collected, unless there is a particular understanding that the excess funds will be spent upon their local area, I do not think that any local committee will have sufficient encouragement to push on with the collections. This idea may kindly be kept in view while discussing the details in the meetings of the committee.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: ഞാൻ ഈ സ്കീമിനെ സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്യുന്നു. നമ്മുടെ കൊച്ചി സർക്കാരിൽനിന്നും ചെറിയ ശിശുക്കളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഏതെങ്കിലുംതരത്തിൽ ശരിയായി നോക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഒരു ബോധം ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനുണ്ടായതിൽ ഞാൻ അതിയായി സന്തോഷിക്കുന്നു. ഇതിന്റെ അത്യാവശ്യകതയെപ്പറ്റി ഈ സഭ ശരിയാംവണ്ണം മനസ്സിലാക്കീട്ടുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതു് ഇവിടെയുണ്ടായ വാദപ്രതിവാദങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഈ കായ്ക്കുംവളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമുള്ളഒന്നാണു്. പക്ഷെ അതിനുള്ള പണം എവിടെനിന്നാണുണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതു് എന്നാണു് പ്രധാനമായി ആലോചിക്കുവാനുള്ളതു്. ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു ഇന്നു ശരിയായതരത്തിലുള്ള ഒരു കെട്ടിയിരിപ്പില്ലെങ്കിൽ തീച്ചയായും ഒരുടാക്സിനു് ഒരുങ്ങണമെന്നതന്നെയാണു് എന്റെ വിനീതമായ അഭിപ്രായം. ഈ സ്കീം ഈയവസ്ഥയിൽ നീട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതായാൽ ശരിയല്ലെന്നുള്ള മറൊരു അഭിപ്രായംകൂടി ഞാൻ ഈ സഭയുടെ മുമ്പാകെ വെച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. സംഭാവനയായിട്ടതന്നെ ഏകദേശം ഒന്നരലക്ഷം ഉറുപ്പികയോളം ഇപ്പോൾ കിട്ടീട്ടുണ്ടു്.

റാവുസാഹിബു് ഐ. എൻ. മേനോൻ: ഈ സ്കീം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടതന്നെ ഇപ്പോൾ രണ്ടു മാസമെ ആയിട്ടുള്ളു.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: ഇതിനിടക്കുതന്നെ ഒന്നരലക്ഷം ഉറുപ്പികയോളം സംഭാവനയായിയിട്ടു കിട്ടിക്കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഇനിയത്തെ സ്റ്റാം ഇയറിനു് ഈ കുസ്റ്റമസ്സു് വെക്കേഷൻ കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ പിന്നെ മൂന്നു മാസമെയുള്ളു. ഈ സ്റ്റാം ഈയറും ഇനി മൂന്നുമാസം മാത്രമെയുള്ളു. ഫ ൪ ലക്ഷം രൂപ വേണ്ടിവരുന്നതിൽ പത്തുലക്ഷം രൂപാ ഇനിയത്തെ സ്റ്റാം ഇയറിലേക്കു നീക്കിയാൽ ബാക്കി ൪ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ഈ സ്റ്റാം ഇയറിലേക്കു നീക്കിവെക്കാവുന്നതാണു്. അതിൽ ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ ഒന്നരലക്ഷം സംഭാവനയായി പിരിഞ്ഞു കിട്ടീട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഇനി പോരാതെയുള്ള നൽ ലക്ഷം ഉറുപ്പികയാണു് ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തേക്കു വേണ്ടതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: സംഭാവനചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: സംഭാവനയായി ഗവൺമെണ്ടിലേക്കു കിട്ടിക്കഴിഞ്ഞുവെന്നാണു് എന്റെ ബോദ്ധ്യം.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: ഒരു Separate Fund ആണതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: ഏതുതരത്തിലായാലും ഫീഡിംഗിനുവേണ്ടിയുള്ളതാണെന്നാണു് എന്റെ ബോദ്ധ്യം. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ School year-ൽതന്നെ ഒരു മൂന്നരലക്ഷം രൂപാകൂടി വിനിയോഗിച്ചു് ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ പരീക്ഷാത്ഥം തുടങ്ങിയാൽ ഒരു കൊല്ലത്തേക്കു്

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ഒട്ടാകെ എണ്ണൂചിലവുവരുമെന്ന കണക്കാക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കും. ഈ മൂന്നുമാസം നമുക്ക ശരിയായതരത്തിൽ ഒരു പരീക്ഷണം നടത്തുവാനും സാധിക്കും. അതിനു് ഇനിയും കാലതാമസംവരുത്തിക്കൂടാ എന്നാണു് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

ഇതിലേക്കു് ഏതുതരത്തിലാണു് പണമുണ്ടാക്കേണ്ടതെന്നുള്ള കാര്യത്തിൽ ശരിയായ ഒരു ആലോചന നടത്തിയതിനുശേഷം നിങ്ങടെ സമ്മതം തന്നാൽ മതിയെന്നു് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ജോയിന്റ് സിക്രട്ടറിയവർകളും ഈ സഭക്കു് അറിവുതന്നതു വളരെ നന്നായി. അദ്ദേഹം പരമാർത്ഥത ഇന്നതാണെന്നുള്ളതു് ഇവിടെ വെളിപ്പെട്ടത്തി.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. ഈച്ചരമേനോൻ: അതു നിങ്ങളുടെ തെറ്റിദ്ധാരണയാണു്. നിങ്ങളുടെ ദിക്കിൽ പണമുള്ളവരുടെ കയ്യിൽനിന്നും പണംവാങ്ങിച്ചിട്ടു് അതു കിട്ടീട്ടില്ലെന്നു പറയും. അതിനുംപുറമെ സെയിൽസു് ടാക്സും പിരിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: ഏതെങ്കിലും തരത്തിൽഉള്ള ടാക്സു് വെച്ചിട്ടുവേണം ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള പ്രവൃത്തിക്കു ഇറങ്ങുവാൻ. കൂടാതെ ആരെങ്കിലും സൌജന്യമായി തരുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതും വാങ്ങണം. പണമില്ലെങ്കിൽ പിന്നെ എന്തിനെ ആശ്രയിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള ബോദ്ധ്യമില്ലാതെ ഒരു സ്കീമുണ്ടാക്കാൻ പുറപ്പെട്ടുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. വി. മുത്തേടൻ: മുഴുവനും ടാക്സ്ചെയ്തിട്ടു പിരിക്കണമെന്നാണോ പറയുന്നതു്?

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ. ടാക്സുചെയ്യാതെ എങ്ങിനെ പിരിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. വി. മുത്തേടൻ: മിസ്റ്റർ അഴകപ്പച്ചെട്ടിയാർ എങ്ങിനെ ഒന്നരലക്ഷം രൂപാ തന്നു?

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: അങ്ങിനെ കിട്ടിയാൽ അതും വാങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളട്ടെ; വേണ്ടെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. ഈ സ്കീം അത്യാവശ്യമാണെന്നു് ഈ സഭ തീരുമാനിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ അതിനുള്ള പണം എവിടെനിന്നാണു കണ്ടെത്തുക എന്നാണു് നോക്കേണ്ടതു്. ബഡ്ഡറിൽ സർപ്ലസ്സു് ഉണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു് ആദ്യമായിട്ടു വിനിയോഗിക്കുക. പോരാതെവരുന്ന സംഖ്യക്കാണു് ടാക്ഷേഷൻ വേണ്ടതു്. ഇതാണു് ശരിയായ ഉത്തരവാദിത്വമുള്ള ഒരു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് ചെയ്യാവുള്ളതു്. നമ്മുടെ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടും അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുമെന്നുള്ള ബോദ്ധ്യം എനിക്കുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. ഭാസ്കരമേനോൻ: അതു സംശയമാണു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: ഏതുതരത്തിലായാലും ഫസ്റ്റ് മിനത്തിനുമുമ്പായി ഇതൊന്നു പരീക്ഷിച്ചാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ വിരമിക്കുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കുട്ടി: സെയിൽ ടാക്സു് ഏകദേശം എത്രത്തോളം പിരിയുമെന്നു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനറിയാമോ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: Although by force of circumstances, I am constrained to say a few words about this amendment, strictly speaking, I am not interested in any amendment. My motion I said is to see that something is done immediately once we get into working order and if Government feel that they want more fund, they can come here and ask for more funds. But I thought it would be better not to begin in a very ambitious way and antagonise and we have got a very parsimonious outlook on life.

In the second place, there is every reason to hope if that we restrict ourselves to this contribution to one-third, it might be possible to carry on without additional taxation. I am not saying that additional taxation would be necessary, because after all we have calculated on the basis of numbers which were ruling some time ago. We have anticipated a certain number of children. If the numbers go up, our calculations will be upset. If such accidents happen and if our calculations are upset to a very large extent, the expenditure may go up in which case, it may be necessary to resort to a temporary legislation. But when we brought this here, our hope was that by restricting our contribution to one-third it might be possible not to go in for additional taxation. I would suggest that while it might be, if funds permit, very satisfactory for any Government to undertake the entire cost of feeding the children, no Government in the world has ever undertaken that task. The expenditure on this head in the case of English schools is borne out of the proceeds of a local rate and that is supplemented by a subvention given by the local Educational authority. So that in no case is the entire cost of noon-day meals for children met by taxation, nor is it entirely met out of voluntary contributions. Fortunately

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

in other countries only noon-day feeding had been started by the generous public. There are in the field voluntary associations with large amounts of funds at their disposal. Here we have no such charitable bodies who have been doing this work of noon-day feeding and the entire cost and the brunt of the task will have to be borne by the Government. We have reason to think that generous contributions can be expected from philanthropic people and we have also reason to think that with this contribution of one-third of the total expenditure from Government, it may be possible to work the scheme.

The House rose for the day at 5 p.m.

N. S. RADHAKRISHNA SARMA
Secretary to the Council

APPENDIX I

(Please see question No. 21)

1.	Assistant Superintendent	..	1 @ Rs. 120	Rs. 120
2.	Medical Officer	..	1 @ Rs. 150	Rs. 150
3.	Unit Commander	..	4 @ Rs. 100	Rs. 400
4.	Do.	..	2 @ Rs. 75	Rs. 150
5.	Supervisors	..	21 @ Rs. 50	Rs. 1,050
6.	Sardars	..	47 @ Rs. 30	Rs. 1,410
7.	Maistries	..	28 @ Rs. 20	Rs. 560
8.	Compounders	..	2 @ Rs. 40	Rs. 80
9.	Surveyor	..	1 @ Rs. 60	Rs. 60
10.	Hospital servant	..	1 @ Rs. 11	Rs. 11
11.	Office establishment.—			
	Head clerk	..	1 @ Rs. 64	Rs. 64
	Accountant	..	1 @ Rs. 44	Rs. 44
	Clerk	..	1 @ Rs. 25	Rs. 25
	Typist	..	1 @ Rs. 37	Rs. 37
12.	Peons.—(3 office peons, 1 for the Assistant Superintendent, and 6 for the Unit Commanders)	..	10 @ Rs. 11	Rs. 110
13.	Clerks of the Unit Commanders	..	3 @ Rs. 40	Rs. 120
			4 @ Rs. 30	Rs. 120
14.	Seed Purchasing Maistry	..	1 @ Rs. 30	Rs. 30
				Rs. 4,541

APPENDIX II

(Please see question No. 35)

List

Dental	..	L.D.S., R.C.S.
X-ray	..	D.M.R.
Eye	..	L.O.
Laboratory	..	Training in the Tropical School of medicine, Calcutta
Tuberculosis	..	A course of training in the Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium
Ear, Nose and Throat	..	A course of training at Bangalore

APPENDIX III

The Payment of Wages Act (Amendment) Bill

Whereas it is necessary to amend the Payment of Wages Act, IV of 1113, It is hereby enacted as follows.—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—This Act may be called the Cochin Payment of Wages (Amendment) Act of 111 and shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of section 2.*—In section 2 of the Cochin Payment of Wages Act, IV of 1113, for sub-clause (c) of clause (ii) the following shall be substituted, namely.—

"inland vessel propelled by steam, electricity or other mechanical power;"

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly